

To: Khan, Annie (DPH)[Annie.Khan@MassMail.State.MA.US]
From: Donovan, Mark (BRI)
Sent: Tue 3/1/2011 9:38:52 PM
Subject: RE: Cw. v. [REDACTED]

Thank you.
This does help a great deal.
Thanks again.

-----Original Message-----

From: Khan, Annie (DPH)
Sent: Tuesday, March 01, 2011 2:16 PM
To: Donovan, Mark (BRI)
Subject: RE: Cw. v. [REDACTED]

If you summons the primary chemist, that's great. But some ADAs are only asking for the confirmatory chemist which poses a problem for us. We are noticing d/c is requesting both chemists be present.

The other reason is that if you summon both chemists there is a 50:50 chance of getting a chemist for the case.

Roles: (Like myself, there are a couple of chemists that do both roles.)

The CUSTODIAL CHEMIST is the one who is assigned the case. They maintain chain of custody and the integrity of the sample/s. They have sole possession of the sample from beginning to end. They will do preliminary testing, weight and ID. They are the only ones who can testify to the validity of the sample.

The CONFIRMATORY CHEMIST actually never sees or handles the case & samples. The confirmatory chemist is given a vial labeled with the Lab#. That vial will contain a small amount of sample dissolved in a liquid and then unknown sample is compared to the standard. The confirmatory chemist can not open that vial, only the custodial chemist. The confirmatory chemist can never testify to weight or handling the sample.

Hope this helps.

Annie

-----Original Message-----

From: Donovan, Mark (BRI)
Sent: Tuesday, March 01, 2011 1:55 PM
To: Khan, Annie (DPH)
Subject: RE: Cw. v. [REDACTED]

Just curious.
Why do you want us to summons both chemist?
Do we only need one for trial?